

REMARKS

Claims 22-24 are all of the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 18-19 and 26 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 22-24 are allowed.

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Nakamura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,578,839) (hereinafter "Nakamura").

Applicants have canceled claim 26, thus rendering the Examiner's rejection moot. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

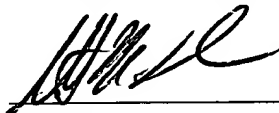
In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 22-24, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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